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services to the London County Council, registration of the blind "is part of our work, and is therefore paid for at session rates, so it is now too late for the voluntary hospitals to put matters right without the co-operation of the State services."

Supporters of the voluntary system will find very little comfort in his final conclusion. "Having been brought up to expect the finest results from a voluntary system, it is with almost a sense of shame that I lay such stress upon payment for the certification of the blind; but for the last few years I have become more and more conscious that blindness requires a more serious, concerted, and co-ordinated attack than is possible within the voluntary system, and I, therefore, consider that a State service can take more effective measures for the prevention of blindness."



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to attract him that human generation by this process would be abhorrent to the feelings of the thousands of sane citizens, to whom the eugenics movement might otherwise appeal with success. It is enough that notoriety can be based on offended sentiments; and he becomes an advocate of "eugenics," by artificial insemination.

I need not enlarge upon the reactions of experienced politicians to activities of this

character. My imaginary examples will serve to emphasize my point that any element of crankery in any society's policy is deadly to its political influence; and, on the other side, that the serious organization of the Society's political activities is to be welcomed, quite apart from its other effects, as closing the door, once and for all, on the use of our Society for the self-advertisement of irresponsible monomaniacs.



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there is a high infant mortality among those subject to certain of the hereditary eye diseases. He entirely agrees with Waardenburg that the eugenic measures must be considered not only from the social but also from a purely humanitarian point of view.

He then gives in section 4 the measures which would reduce the numbers of the blind with hereditary eye diseases. His suggestions are very similar to my own, and his figures correspond fairly closely with many of those that I stressed in my paper published in 1932.

What is the significance of these facts? They show that the present position is terrible, but that, if certain reforms are carried out, immense improvement and relief of suffering is possible. They also show that large numbers of the blind are made blind by a callous indifference to suffering, engendered by social and religious prejudice and by ignorance. They show that much money spent on relief and care of the blind would be better spent on prevention. Professor Franceschetti has shown us what to do; let us see that we do it.



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markets is one of the causes of war; and whereas the intelligent control of population is a present need; and whereas to achieve this intelligent control, scientific birth-control information must be available for all classes; therefore be it resolved that we, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, support the bills now before Congress, S. 600 and H.R. 5600.

Though there are national sections of the League in twenty-seven countries and corresponding groups or individual members in twenty-one other countries, the membership in the U.S.A. is only about 10,000. The Catholic organizations, on the other hand, represent much larger memberships. Unfortunately, when it comes to counting heads in legislative halls, numbers impress legislators much more than the quality of intelligence they represent.

MARGARET SANGER'S AMENDMENT

The National Committee for Federal Legislation on Birth Control has just published a list of organizations endorsing Mrs. Sanger's amendment to the restrictive birth-control legislation. Probably a thousand organizations are listed, among them national, state and county medical societies and clubs, deans of medical schools, public health and

nursing organizations and officials, social, educational and labour groups, business and professional women's clubs, parent-teacher associations, Junior Leagues, American Legion Auxiliaries, rotary groups and political societies.

EUGENICS IN COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS

It is gratifying to learn that many recent college textbooks on the family are giving more space than formerly to contemporary aspects of familial relations, including quality of population and eugenics. Among these are Hornell Hart's Personality and the Family (Boston, Heath), the new edition of Goodsell's Problems of the Family (New York, Appleton-Century) and J. K. Folsom's The Family: Its Sociology and Social Psychiatry (New York, Wiley). It seems true to say that eugenics has received more sympathetic treatment from American sociologists in recent decades than heretofore. Sociologists, perhaps because they deal essentially with social forces, are apt to be strong environmentalists. Yet recent social trends gave guarded approval of eugenics, an event which could not have occurred in American sociology two decades ago.

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by no means in agreement that irregularities of sex, either in the direction of over-indulgence or starvation, have any direct bearing on the condition of prostatic enlargement. Indeed it is the opinion of the reviewer that a man can do little, if anything, to reduce his chances of becoming in later life the victim of prostatic enlargement. The

reading of *The Dangerous Age in Men* may therefore perform the useful function of urging one who has already signs of enlargement to seek timely advice, but it cannot help, in the reviewer's opinion, one who in the future may develop this trouble but as yet shows no signs of it.

KENNETH WALKER.



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Weigner, Prof. Karel (Editor). Contributions by Maly, J., Matlegka, J., Pelc, H., Brozek, A., Ruzicka, V., and Weigner, K. Die Gleichwertigkeit der europäischen Rassen und die Wege zu ihrer Vervollkommnung. (The equal value of the European races and the ways to improve them). Prague, 1935. Orbis, A.-G. Pp. 163.

The absolute and unquestioned superiority of Nordic Man is one of the principal theses of modern German eugenics. No book can be published in Germany that denies this fundamental truth. Genuine science has found a refuge in other countries. The Czech Academy of Sciences and Arts in Prague has now published a book which thoroughly scrutinizes the claims of the race

addicts and reduces them to their real value, i.e. to nothing or nearly nothing.

This little book contains a number of essays by different contributors treating the various aspects of their problem: Genetics, physical anthropology, eugenics, public health, physical culture, etc. The authors—with the possible exception of Professor Matiegka—are probably known only to a very limited number of persons in England; but they have all a very good scientific repute in their own country.

There are two editions of this book: the original Czech one and a German translation—not too good a translation, however. It must be strongly recommended as a plea against race-ism but for eugenics.

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